

In summary, community-based health planning is a process which assists local citizens in their respective communities to do the following:

- **Identify the community's health care needs.**
- **Examine the social, economic, and political realities affecting the local delivery of health care.**
- **Determine what the community can realistically achieve in a health care system to meet their needs.**
- **Develop and mobilize an action plan based on analysis for the community.**

The end result of the process should answer three questions for the community:

Where is the community now?

Where does it want to be?

How will it get there?

The Tennessee Department of Health is committed to assisting communities throughout our state in finding the answers to these questions via the Community Diagnosis process. The following is the White County Community Diagnosis Document which details the process the White County community utilized to assess its strengths, weaknesses, and gaps in resources. A very thorough analysis of health statistical data, community surveys, resources, and key leaders' perception of White County's health care status facing the community is presented in document form to be utilized as a baseline document for public relations, grant applications, and as a foundation of the work plan for the future.